

Secret Chambers and Hiding Places

Allan Fea

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"Secret Chambers and Hiding Places" is a collection of concealments and their uses, almost all within England, although a very few passages and chambers in continental Europe are mentioned, Jacobite hidey holes in Scotland, while the final chapter of the book covers Bonnie Prince Charlie's wanderings around Scotland, among caves and other hiding places. Most chapters are devoted to historical events; such as the the seventeenth century persecution of roman catholics (with many large houses having specially constructed "priests' holes"), or various unpopular monarchs and their hiding places. The text is scattered with legends and true stories, with occasional skeletons found, still hiding, long centuries after the searchers have left. The author describes hidden doors, passages, rooms and pits with enormous enthusiasm ... and with considerable regret when he has to describe secret places lost to demolition or modernisation. You'll wish you could wander the country, poking into the darkest recesses of every old house you find! (Summary by Peter Yearsley)

- Chapter 01 and Introduction – A Great Deviser of 'Priest's Holes' – 00:15:25
Chapter 02 – Hindlip Hall – 00:12:22
Chapter 03 – Priest Hunting at Braddocks – 00:12:50
Chapter 04 – The Gunpowder Plot Conspirators – 00:10:38
Chapter 05 – Harvington, Ufton and Ingatestone – 00:12:42
Chapter 06 – Compton Winyates, Salford Prior, Sawston, Oxburgh, Parham, Paxhill etc. – 00:17:25
Chapter 07 – King-hunting: Boscobel, Moseley, Trent, and Heale – 00:16:07
Chapter 08 – Cavalier-hunting, etc. – 00:22:59
Chapter 09 – James II's escapes – 00:12:54
Chapter 10 – James II's escapes (continued), Ham House and "Abdication House" – 00:10:33
Chapter 11 – Mysterious Rooms, Deadly Pits etc. – 00:15:20
Chapter 12 – Hiding Places in Jacobite Dwellings, and in Scottish Castles and Mansions – 00:14:44
Chapter 13 – Concealed Doors, Subterranean Passages etc. – 00:12:19
Chapter 14 – Miniature Hiding-holes for Valuables etc. – 00:05:46
Chapter 15 – Hiding Places of Smugglers and Thieves. – 00:13:30
Chapter 16 – Scottish Hiding Places of Prince Charles Edward – 00:17:44

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Read by Peter Yearsley



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